assessment years. The rate of investment allowance is proposed to be twenty per cent of the cost and shall be allowed in respect of the new ship or new aircraft acquired after 31st March, 1988, or new machineries or new plants installed after 31st March, 1988, for the purposes of business of generation or distribution of electricity or any other form of power or for use in a small scale industrial undertaking or in any other industrial undertaking for the purposes of construction manufacture or production of any article or thing not being an article or thing specified in the Eleventh Schedule to the Income-tax Act. The other provisions relating to the Scheme will be on the same lines as they were prior to its withdrawal by the Finance Act, 1986.

(c) Since the deduction will be based on the cost of the new plant or machinery installed or the new ship or new aircraft acquired, it will encourage investment in the industrial sector.

Excise duty concession on Diesel oil to small mechanised fishing crafts

2443. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether larger trawlers are exempted from payment of excise duty on diesel and smaller mechanised fishing crafts do not enjoy such facility;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such discrimination;

(c) whether Maharashtra Government has requested for waiving excise duty on diesel for small mechanised fishing crafts; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Concessional rates of excise duty are available to diesel oil supplied for use in deep sea fishing vessels of not less than 150 B.H.P. and of length not less than 13.7 metres. The question of extending the concession to smaller fishing vessels was examined in the past, but it was not found feasible, because of serious administrative difficulties and risk to revenue.

(c) No such request from the Government of Maharashtra has been received recently.

(d) Does not arise.

Modification of Advance Licensing Scheme

2444. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to bring modifications in the Advance Licencing Scheme;

(b) if so, what are the details of the modifications likely to be made;

(c) whether the intermediate manufacturers and exporters will get any benefit due to these modifications; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) The Import-Export Policy is kept under constant review and necessary modifications are made as and when required. These modifications are announced in the form of public Notice, copies of which are also sent to Parliament Library.

(c) and (d) The Intermediate Advance Licensing Scheme was substantially modified vide public Notice No. 25-ITC(PN)/88—91 dated 11th July, 1988. This was done to make the scheme operationally simpler for the intermediate manufacturers and the final exporters.